

# Thurston County Opioid Response Task Force

November 02, 2020 from 3:00pm-4:30pm

Thurston County Public Health & Social Services Department

Zoom Meeting – Virtual Only

## AGENDA

Description	Action Steps/Items
Welcome / Review Minutes / Review Agenda	Schelli Slaughter & Jon Tunheim welcomed everyone to the meeting. The September minutes and the November agenda were approved without updates. Introductions were saved for the end of the meeting during membership updates/roundtable.
Overview of Overdose Data	<p>Ben Miller-Todd shared data on naloxone deployment from Thurston County Medic One’s electronic health record database (see slides for additional information). He made the disclaimer that EMS data only shows data for instances where a person called 911 and that the data is based on the primary impressions of the EMS provider.</p> <p>The data which Ben Miller-Todd shared that EMS data is great for looking at trends, rather than looking at specific instances – specifically to compare call volumes between various timeframes. An example of this is seeing a significant decrease in call volume in April 2020, which correlates with the general fear which the public had in seeking medical services during the beginning of COVID-19 response and restrictions. In looking at naloxone administration data, naloxone administration stayed relatively consistent during the year timeframe between October 2019 and 2020. It is possible that this could be indicative of a small bump in naloxone/overdose related calls around April 2020, as these calls did not decrease when overall EMS calls showed a significant decrease.</p> <p>The EMS data regarding naloxone administration tracks how many times it was reported that naloxone was administered, as well as who administered it (layperson, law enforcement, EMS, etc). These numbers include calls when naloxone was administered by someone prior to EMS arrival on scene. Between October 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020 – Medic One data reports administering naloxone 265 individuals.</p> <p>Katie Strozyk added that Medic One data does not paint a complete picture of overdose instances and naloxone administration in Thurston County, emphasizing how Ben Miller-Todd mentioned that this data is only representative of situations where 911 was called. The Medic One data can be blended with other data sources (Syringe Services Program, State Department of Health distribution, etc.) to obtain a more complete look at overdoses for the county – although it is impossible to get an exact number. This is due to naloxone administration and overdose data primarily being collected through self-reported data to service providers and through 911 dispatch requests.</p>

<p>Thurston County Overdose Death Data</p>	<p>Mary Ann O’Garro provided an update on overdose death data (see slides for additional information). It was mentioned that the Washington State Department of Health was working on having updated data dashboards available online for the public to easily access this data, but this effort has been stalled due to COVID-19 related staffing changes – causing most online data to only show data through 2018. A report with more detailed data around drug overdose deaths, specifically those in Thurston County, is being worked on and will be available soon.</p> <p>Thurston County drug overdose deaths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2018: 37 any drug <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 26 any opioid (70%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 2019: 33 any drug <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 16 any opioid (48%)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 2020 (January-June): 16 any drug <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 9 any opioid (56%)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Drug overdose deaths from “any drug” include opioid related deaths, as well as deaths related to all other drugs (stimulants, benzodiazepines, etc.). These drug overdose deaths are then categorized as to whether it was an opioid related overdose.</p> <p>Mary Ann O’Garro shared demographic data, including a breakdown of race and age within the 2018-2020 opioid overdose deaths. Of these deaths, 87% of individuals were white and 13% were BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color). In looking at age, 37% of all opioid overdose deaths were individuals 35 or younger. Also notable - 25% of opioid overdose deaths were individuals 55 and older.</p>
<p>SMART Objective Progress</p>	<p>Katie Strozyk provided an update on the progress made towards the group’s SMART Objectives (see slides for additional information). These are the metrics which the group has been working to meet regarding the strategies in the 2019-2020 Response Plan.</p> <p>As of November 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 total SMART Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In progress: 13</li> <li>○ Complete: 11</li> <li>○ Revised: 13</li> <li>○ Dropped: 9</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Many of the dropped objectives were due to originally planning for in-person trainings and various community events, with it not being feasible to host some planned events on a virtual platform. Revised objectives primarily reflect metrics which were decreased due to staff resources and/or a change in service delivery during COVID-19 response. An updated version of the SMART Objectives will be available on the Task Force website this week, which will show the status of each Objective.</p>

## Work Group Updates

Katie Strozyk gave an update for the Naloxone work group, noting that the focus has been on looking at data around both naloxone distribution and administration. This has been a complex process, as there are many data sources and many of them rely on self-reports from individuals who have overdosed or who have administered naloxone. The group has also been emphasizing the training which Thurston County Public Health & Social Services offers around opioid overdose education and response. Within the next few weeks, this training will be targeted towards hotels and motels – as the Work Group brainstormed these locations to be a location where overdose deaths may occur.

Jennifer Johnson provided an update on the changes which have occurred to the safe medication disposal program. In the past, this program has been housed at law enforcement agencies. This program has changed to a statewide program which is funded by pharmaceutical companies with oversight from MED-Project. These changes have resulted in an increase in the number of medication disposal locations in the county, with available locations available [here](#). Locally, efforts are being made by Thurston County Public Health & Social Services to update physical handouts which detail disposal locations to ensure that the public has up-to-date information on availability. This will be paired with education around why it is important to properly dispose of unneeded medications, as well as to properly store medication within the home.

Gretchen Thaller provided an update for the Pregnant & Parenting Work Group. Work Group members recently presented at the regional Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Provider meeting, where they were able to share resources and answer questions. This led to a connection with the Olympia Bupe Clinic locally, where they will be following-up and working on creating a more robust referral system to reproductive care. The group has also been working on how they can get pregnancy tests distributed to the community, as well as information cards which detail available resources for pregnant individuals.

Mary Ann O'Garro shared updates from the Data and Prevention Work Groups. Thurston County Public Health & Social Services has recently hired a new epidemiologist who will be supporting the Data Work Group, which will begin meeting again in January 2021. Kateri Wimsett will be taking over the Prevention Work Group in January, which will also be starting back up in January. This Work Group will include the efforts which Jennifer Johnson talked about regarding safe medication storage and disposal.

Jon Tunheim provided an update for the Criminal Justice Work Group, which currently convenes as the Innovative Justice meeting. The group will be having a presentation from Anne Larsen in December around the Familiar Faces program in Olympia. Thurston County is continuing to move forward working with the Washington State Health Care Authority on the development of a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program. Thurston County Drug Court is currently piloting a new restorative justice type program, with the training orientation for staff coming up in the next few weeks. Larry Jefferson added that Familiar Faces in Olympia started an Arrest and Jail Alternatives program around 6 months ago, where peer support teams are utilized to assist in serving individuals who are justice involved and have behavioral health needs.

Jason Bean-Mortinson shared an update from the Treatment Work Group, including that multiple members have recently transitioned to other agencies where they are no longer involved. The group has taken a break from meeting at this time but will begin meeting again at the beginning of 2021.

<p>Looking Forward to 2021 &amp; Beyond</p>	<p>Katie Strozyk shared that development of the 2021-2022 Response Plan will begin in the first part of 2021. This timeline will give the group time to explore topics of interest more in depth, as well as consider new/continued goals to be accomplished in the next two years.</p> <p>Over the last few meetings, the Task Force has shown interest in expanding opportunities that highlight therapeutic and alternative interventions, specifically those which do not involve arrest or incarceration. The group has also expressed an interest in digging deeper into racial equity and how race intersects with both drug use and Response Plan strategies – specifically looking at how to be more equitable and where disparities may exist. The group has begun to learn more about stimulant use through prior presentations, and there has been an expressed interest in including stimulant/polysubstance use in future efforts. This expansion would mirror the expansion of the Washington State Opioid Response Plan, which will include methamphetamine in the updated Plan.</p> <p>Mary Ann O’Garro gave more details around 2021-2022 Response Plan development, including that the goal would be to have a completed Response Plan ready to present to the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners in June 2021. This draft Response Plan would have to be approved by the group at the May 2021 meeting in order to meet this timeline. In order to work within this short timeline, the priority would be to emphasize areas which already have momentum. An ask was put out to the group as to which groups and audiences are currently missing from the table who need to be invited to the January 2021 Task Force meeting and be engaged in the planning process. The group immediately mentioned wanting to have more Peer Counselor involvement and inclusion of people with lived experience (former and current experience related to drug use). The group also mentioned the need to have each jurisdiction in the county at the table, including all law enforcement departments.</p>
<p>Membership Updates / Funding &amp; Partnership Opportunities</p>	<p>The following updates were shared during the roundtable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katie Strozyk will be presenting to the Thurston County Board of Health on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> to give an update on the progress of the Thurston County Opioid Response Task Force.</li> <li>• Family Education and Support Services will be doing a hygiene/diaper/food distribution event in Tumwater on November 5<sup>th</sup> and in Nisqually on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Parenting classes are also offered, with men and women specific courses, with more information available on their website.</li> <li>• The Olympia Bupe Clinic is looking to build a partnership with local hospitals to strengthen relationships in order to better serve their patients who are pregnant during delivery. With their PEW research grant, they will be starting data collection within the next few weeks.</li> <li>• Public Health and Social Services will be offering an overdose education and response training virtually, with the target audience being south Thurston County. A date for this training will be coming soon.</li> <li>• Krystal Pierce, Justice Outreach Coordinator at the Olympia Bupe Clinic, is taking referrals for individuals who are justice involved who use opioids who may need assistance accessing resources or treatment services.</li> <li>• Thurston County Public Defense will be looking to add a social worker to their office in 2021. A resource center is still being explored in order to have a one-stop-shop location for individuals to access resources and treatment evaluations.</li> </ul>

Schedule & Next Steps	<p>Next Task Force meeting: January 04, 2021 from 3:00 pm- 5:00 pm. VIRTUAL ONLY – NO IN PERSON ATTENDANCE <a href="https://washington.zoom.us/j/92529942589">https://washington.zoom.us/j/92529942589</a> Call-in: 1 (253) 215-8782 Meeting ID: 925 2994 2589</p> <p>If you are interested in additional information regarding the Thurston County Opioid Response Task Force, would like to join a work group, or have further questions – please contact Katie Strozyk at <a href="mailto:katie.strozyk@co.thurston.wa.us">katie.strozyk@co.thurston.wa.us</a> or (360) 878-1261</p>
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Name	Agency
Bean-Mortinson, Jason	Thurston-Mason BHASO/OHRC
Benavente, Danilynn	Providence – Chemical Dependency
Cohan, Cody	Family Support Center
Cranos, Hallie	WA Recovery Help Line
Dalhoff, Leatta	Tumwater City Council
Demus, Hayley	Olympia Bupe Clinic
Dominique, Bryan	Thurston County Commissioner’s Office
Grande, Cindy, MD	Pioneer Practice / Olympia Bupe Clinic
Hardin, Kurt	Medic One
Hennen, Carrie	Public Health & Social Services
Jefferson, Larry	Public Defense
Knudsen, Jessie	Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
List, Alissa	Community Member
Marineau, Keylee	Public Health & Social Services
Menser, Tye	Thurston County Commissioner
Miller-Todd, Ben	Medic One
Moore, Caitlin	Cascade Pacific Action Alliance/CHOICE
O’Connor, Patrick	Public Defense
O’Garro, Mary Ann	Public Health & Social Services
Pierce, Krystal	Olympia Bupe Clinic
Sisson, Linda	Family Support Center
Slaughter, Schelli	Public Health & Social Services
Strozyk, Katie	Public Health & Social Services
Terry, Priscilla	Community Member
Thaller, Gretchen	Public Health & Social Services
Tunheim, Jon	Prosecuting Attorney’s Office
Willis, Shelly	Family Education & Support Services

Wimsett, Kateri

Public Health & Social Services